

Jackie Kennedy's hopes revealed in '63 interview

BOSTON (AP) - A week after her husband's assassination, Jacqueline Kennedy remembered how the president collapsed into her lap when the shots rang out. And she remembered how he looked.

"His last expression was so neat," Mrs. Kennedy told journalist Theodore H. White in comments released for the first time Friday. "He had his hand out, I could see a piece of his skull coming off ... and I can see this perfectly clean piece detaching itself from his head.

"Then he slumped in my lap," she said. "His blood and brains were in my lap.

"I kept saying: 'Jack, Jack, Jack' and someone was yelling: 'He's

dead, he's dead.' All the ride to the hospital I kept bending over him saying: 'Jack, Jack, can you hear me, I love you Jack.' I kept holding the top of his head down, trying to keep the brains in," she said on Nov. 29, 1963.

Excerpts from the interview have appeared in Life magazine and Mr. White's 1978 memoir, "In Search of History," and the sight of the dazed widow in her bloodstained pink suit has become a 20th century icon. Now, the John F. Kennedy Library has released the full record of that interview, 34 pages that include Mr. White's handwritten notes and revisions in Mrs. Kennedy's handwriting.

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